

1 What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method comprising:
 - 2 receiving user-input configuration changes to a
 - 3 configuration file;
 - 4 tracking the configuration changes in multiple
 - 5 independent edit views;
 - 6 updating an active edit view to include configuration
 - 7 changes of a single independent edit view; and
 - 8 updating a configuration database that stores the
 - 9 configuration file, according to the configuration changes in
 - 10 the active edit view.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising checking the
 - 2 syntax and semantics of the active edit view before updating
 - 3 the configuration database.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1 further comprising updating
 - 2 other independent edit views based on changes in the active
 - 3 edit view.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising generating a
 - 2 list of changes to the configuration file in the configuration
 - 3 database based on the updating of the configuration database.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4 further comprising identifying
 - 2 a conflict between an independent edit view and the list of
 - 3 changes.
- 1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein a conflict includes a
 - 2 modification to an element included in both the list of
 - 3 changes and the independent edit view.

1 7. The method of claim 5 further comprising resolving
2 the conflict between the independent edit view and the list of
3 changes.

1 8. The method of claim 7 wherein resolving the conflict
2 includes updating the independent edit view based on the
3 active edit view such that the independent edit view includes
4 the changes to the configuration database.

1 9. The method of claim 7 wherein resolving the conflict
2 includes discarding the changes and applying a different
3 independent edit view to the active edit view.

1 10. The method of claim 7 wherein resolving the conflict
2 includes resolving multiple conflicts on an individual basis.

1 11. A computer program product, tangibly embodied in an
2 information carrier, for executing instructions on a
3 processor, the computer program product being operable to
4 cause a machine to:

5 receive user-input configuration changes to a
6 configuration file;

7 track the configuration changes in multiple independent
8 edit views;

9 update an active edit view to include configuration
10 changes of a single independent edit view; and

11 update a configuration database that stores the
12 configuration file, according to the configuration changes in
13 the active edit view.

1 12. The computer program product of claim 11 being
2 operable to check the syntax and semantics of the active edit
3 view before updating the configuration database.

1 13. The computer program product of claim 11 being
2 operable to update other independent edit views based on
3 changes in the active edit view.

1 14. The computer program product of claim 11 being
2 operable to generate a list of changes to the configuration
3 file in the configuration database based on the updating of
4 the configuration database.

1 15. The computer program product of claim 11 being
2 operable to identify a conflict between an independent edit
3 view and the list of changes.

1 16. The computer program product of claim 15 being
2 operable to resolve the conflict between the independent edit
3 view and the list of changes.

1 17. A system configured to:
2 receive user-input configuration changes to a
3 configuration file;
4 track the configuration changes in multiple independent
5 edit views;
6 update an active edit view to include configuration
7 changes of a single independent edit view; and
8 update a configuration database that stores the
9 configuration file, according to configuration changes in the
10 active edit view.

1 18. The system of claim 17 further configured to check
2 the syntax and semantics of the active edit view before
3 updating the configuration database.

1 19. The system of claim 17 further configured to update
2 other independent edit views based on changes in the active
3 edit view.

1 20. The system of claim 17 further configured to
2 generate a list of changes to the configuration file in the
3 configuration database based on the updating of the
4 configuration database.

1 21. The system of claim 17 further configured to
2 identify conflicts between an independent edit view and the
3 list of changes.

1 22. The system of claim 21 further configured to resolve
2 the conflict between the independent edit view and the list of
3 changes.